



# Meeting Notice for the Governor's Commission on Disabilities Election Assistance Committee Thursday, May 8th, 2014 @ 2pm

John O. Pastore Center, 41 Cherry Dale Court,  
Cranston, RI 02920-3049  
(voice) 401-462-0100 (fax) 462-0106 (tty) via RI Relay 711  
(e-mail) [Cdegrave@gcd.ri.gov](mailto:Cdegrave@gcd.ri.gov)  
(website) [www.disabilities.ri.gov](http://www.disabilities.ri.gov)

## Agenda

2:00 Call to Order, Welcomin & Approval of Minutes, Rory Carmody, Committee Chair .....	1
2:05 Election Assistance Plan & General Program Updates .....	2
2:35 Polling Place Inspections & Grant Application Review .....	3
2:55 Agenda and Scheduling the Next Meeting, Rory Carmody, Committee Chair .....	5
3:15 Adjournment, Rory Carmody, Committee Chair .....	5

### Special notes:



No perfume or  
scents graphic



sign language logo

We ask that you use unscented personal care products - that you not wear perfumes or scents. Please realize that what may seem to you to be a mild scent can make other people sick.

Anyone may come to meetings of the Commission or its committees.

If you need someone to read, large print, Braille, interpreters or captioners for the deaf and hard of hearing, at our meetings, please call (401-462-0100, via RI Replay 711) or email ([disabilities@gcd.ri.gov](mailto:disabilities@gcd.ri.gov)) the Commission at least 3 business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting it.



assistive listening  
logo



large print logo



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**Attendees:** Rory Carmody (Chairperson); Casey Gartland (Vice Chair.); Kate Bowden, Chris Butler, Leo Canuel, Regina Connor, Steven Florio, Michelle Hayes, Miguel Nunez, Grace Pires, Arthur Plitt, Robert Rapoza, Lorna Ricci

**Guests:**

**Staff:**

Bob Cooper, Christine Rancourt Bruzzi, Christopher DeGrave



Clock graphic

**2:00 Call to Order, Welcomin & Approval of Minutes, Rory Carmody, Committee Chair**

Chair calls the meeting to order at \_\_\_\_  
Introductions of Commissioners and guests




voting check off graphic

**Potential MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented/revised.**

**Motion by:**  
**Seconded:**

**Action Items:**

	<p><b>2:05 Election Assistance Plan &amp; General Program Updates</b></p> <p><b>Purpose/Goal:</b> To discuss, revise and approve the current plan for committee involvement and priorities prior to the primary of September and November general election.</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <p>Protecting the Voting Rights of Individuals with Disabilities  The Commission is the state's sole designated recipient of the US Department of Human Services - Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities State Grants. These funds may only be used for the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o "Making polling places, including the path of travel, entrances, exits, and voting areas of each polling facility, accessible to individuals with the full range of disabilities;</li> <li>o Providing the same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy and independence, to individuals with the full range of disabilities as for other voters;</li> <li>o Training election officials, poll workers, and election volunteers on how best to promote the access and participation of individuals with the full range of disabilities in elections for Federal office; and</li> <li>o Providing individuals with the full range of disabilities with information about the accessibility of polling places."</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Program Goals prior to September Primary &amp; November Election</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Education on the voter ID requirements for 2014</li> <li>o Expanding voter outreach and registration to young adults with disabilities</li> <li>o Removing any remaining physical barriers at polling places (Grant Opportunities)</li> <li>o Encouraging adults with disabilities to become candidates</li> <li>o Others?</li> </ul>
 <p>voting check off graphic</p>	<p><b>Potential MOTION:</b> To approve the operational plan (April-November) and committee goals as <i>presented/revised as follows ...</i></p> <p><b>Motion by:</b></p> <p><b>Seconded:</b></p>

## 2:35 Polling Place Inspections & Grant Application Review

**Purpose/Goal: (1)** - To discuss and review the polling place inspection results thru April 2014.

**(2)** - Discuss, review & approve/ edit/reject municipal grant proposals for HAVA funding reimbursement for polling place modifications.

### Discussion: #1

- Major Issues @ polling locations- Parking, Signage, Exterior Maintenance, Door Hardware, Space Issues (NON-ADA)
- Improvements needed to:
  - Increase PERMANENT disability parking availability
  - Increase accessibility & less door monitors with accessible hardware/ door openers
  - Limit confusion of “finding the way”
  - Increase exterior & interior voting instructions & directions
  - Consistent voting signage at every poll
  - Increased visibility from the street/ main entrance
- HAVA grant requests, total funding allotment, grant application date idea?

### Discussion: #2

- HAVA Grant Requests
  - **City of Woonsocket (2013-2014 Election Repairs) \*\*\*:** Pro-Active repairs made prior to special elections this past winter. Requested reimbursement total of : **\$1379.00**
  - **City of Cranston:** Requested reimbursement total of: **\$17,989.00** for the modification and accessibility improvement of five (5) polling locations.
  - **Town of Hopkinton/ Chariho School Dept:** Requested reimbursement total of: **\$35,150.00** for the modification and accessibility improvement of two (2) polling locations.
  - **City of Central Falls:** Requested reimbursement total of **\$36,331.46** for the modification and accessibility improvement of six (6) polling locations.
  - **Town of Middletown:** Requested reimbursement total of **\$201.34** for the installation of permanent disability parking at a polling location.
  - **City of Pawtucket:** Requested reimbursement total of: **\$4,249.00** for the modification and accessibility improvement of the Pawtucket Boat House polling location.

**\*\*\* See attached pdf documents for grant submittals.**

Potential MOTION: To approve/ edit/ revise/ reject the grant submissions for the following communities:

Woonsocket: Approve/ Reject

Cranston: Approve/ Reject



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Hopkinton/ Chariho School Dept: Approve/ Reject

City of Central Falls: Approve/ Reject

